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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/638,192	08/15/2000	Ivan A. Cowie	28549-165559	1610
26694	7590	09/15/2006	EXAMINER	
VENABLE LLP P.O. BOX 34385 WASHINGTON, DC 20043-9998				TSE, YOUNG TOI
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2611	

DATE MAILED: 09/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SF

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/638,192	COWIE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	YOUNG T. TSE	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2006.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,6-20,22-26,31-45 and 47-50 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) 26, 31 and 47 is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 1,6-20,22-25,32-45 and 48-50 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 1, 6-20, 22-25, 32-45, and 48-50 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, line 5, “at least one of an amplitude” should be “at least one amplitude”.

In claims 8-9 (line 1), claims 22-23 (line 1), claims 33-34 (line 1), and claims 48-49 (line 2), “each of said” should be “said”.

In claim 9 (lines 7-8), claim 10 (lines 6, 9-10 and 13), claim 11 (line 2), claim 12 (line 7), claim 13 (line 4), claim 17 (line 4), claim 19 (line 5), claim 34 (lines 7-8), claim 35 (lines 6, 9-10 and 13), claim 37 (line 7), claim 38 (line 5), claim 42 (line 5), and claim 44 (line 5), “one sub-component” and “one smaller component” should be “one sub-component of said component” and “one smaller component of said sub-component”, respectively.

In claim 11, line 2, “one sub-component, and said any number of smaller components” should be “one sub-component of said component, and said at least one smaller component of said sub-component”.

In claim 12 (line 8), claim 13 (line 5), claim 17 (line 5), claim 19 (line 6), claim 36 (lines 2-3), claim 37 (line 8), claim 38 (line 6), claim 42 (line 6), and claim 44 (line 6), “said any number of smaller components” should be “said at least one smaller component of said sub-component”.

In claim 18, line 2, “the component, sub-component, and smaller components” should be “the at least one component, the at least one sub-component of the component, and the at least one smaller component of the sub-component”. Also see claim 43.

In claim 25, line 1, “said layout” should be “said at least one layout”. Also see claim 50.

In claim 32, line 2, “temporal characteristic” should be “at least one temporal characteristic”.

The dependent claims 6-7, 14-16, 20 and 22 are objected to because they are either directly or indirectly depended upon the independent claim 1.

The dependent claims 39-41 and 45 are objected to because they are either directly or indirectly depended upon the dependent claim 34.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 26, 31 and 47 are allowed.
3. Claims 1, 6-20, 22-25, 32-45 and 48-50 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s) set forth in this Office action.

***Conclusion***

4. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

The objection of claims 1, 6-20, 22-25, 32-45 and 48-50 set forth discussed above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

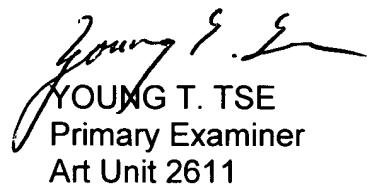
A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOUNG T. TSE whose telephone number is (571) 272-3051. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2611

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



YOUNG T. TSE  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2611